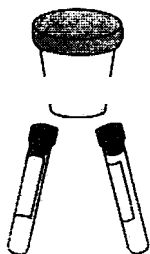




Shipping instructions for samples collected from individuals potentially exposed to chemical terrorism agents



Specimens required for analysis (collect from each person):

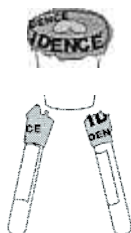
Urine-25 mL (use a screw-capped plastic container). **Freeze as soon as possible**; If possible, attempt to ship on dry ice. If dry ice is not available, samples can be shipped with freezer packs.

Whole blood - two 5 or 7 mL purple-top (EDTA) tubes vacuum-fill only (**unopened**);

Whole blood-one 5 or 7 mL gray-top or one 5 or 7 mL green-top tube vacuum-fill only (**unopened**), plus an empty tube for each lot number used to check as a blank; and

Whole blood- two 10 mL **no anticoagulant** red-top tubes (not SST or gel tubes) please do not separate serum from cells prior to sending to CDC

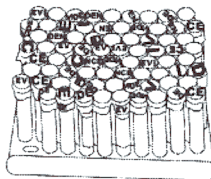
Tubes are often distributed in styrofoam racks/holders. If available, use such styrofoam racks for shipping purposes.



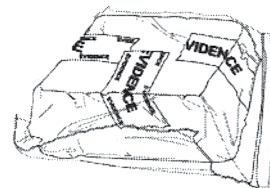
After collection:

Label specimens with labels generated by your facility. The label should include at least the following information (medical records number, specimen identification number, collector's initials, and date/time of collection). This information would be useful to correlate results obtained from the Rapid Toxic Screen with the people from whom samples were collected. A list of names with corresponding sample identification numbers must be maintained at the collection site, to allow analytical results to be reported to the actual patients.

Wrap each sample top with tamper-proof, water-proof forensic evidence tape. Be careful not to cover the sample labels.



Place collected and labeled blood samples (tops wrapped with evidence tape) back into the styrofoam rack (to provide stability during shipment).



When packaging samples, please wrap the tubes with absorbent material (i.e., blue hospital pads or newspaper) and secure with tape. Place the packaged tubes in a large zip-lock bag.

Package frozen urine cups individually. Wrap each cup with absorbent material, and place in a zip-lock bag.

****Note:** On August 14, 2002, the Federal Register published a final Department of Transportation rule under Docket HM-226. This rule requires that:

Under 49CFR 173.199 (b) liquid diagnostic specimens (4) "For shipments by aircraft, the primary receptacle or secondary packaging must be capable of withstanding without leakage an internal pressure producing a pressure differential of not less than 95kPa (0.95 bar, 14 psi)."

Please check with your primary tube, urine collection cup manufacturer to determine whether their products have been tested to meet the 95 kPa pressure differential. If not, you will need to use secondary packaging that meets the 95 kPa pressure differential testing requirement.

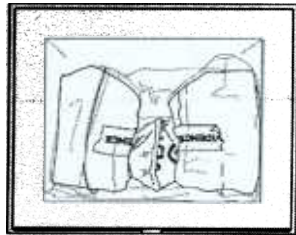
Page 2 Shipping Guidance

When packaging samples for shipment:

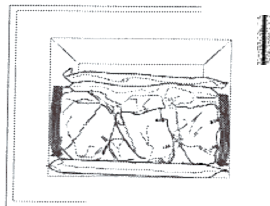
Obtain a styrofoam insulated shipping container (should be available from your transfusion service or send-out department).

Place absorbent material (sufficient to absorb the contents of all tubes if broken during transport) in the bottom of the box. Next, insert a layer of frozen cold packs, then insert the wrapped tubes in the plastic bags. (Cold packs can be inserted between the packages to maintain temperature.)

Absorbent materials can also be placed between packages to protect them. On top of each package, place another layer of frozen cold packs.



Package urine cups similarly, but without cold packs between the samples. Urine samples should be shipped on dry ice. Absorbent material between the cups will provide adequate protection. A larger amount of absorbent material is needed for shipping the urine specimens.

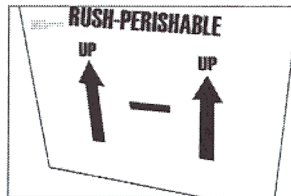


Include a shipping list (with sample identification numbers) in a plastic zip-lock bag on top of the absorbent material inside the top of the box. Include the name and telephone number of a local contact person.

Please do not ship urine cups and blood tubes in the same box.

When preparing the box(es) for shipment:

Two up-arrows must be located on opposite sides of the box.



Place a sticker on each side of the box that states:

Non-Infectious
Diagnostic Specimens
Packed in Compliance
with IATA Packing
Instructions
650

Secure box tops and bottoms with filamentous shipping/strapping tape.

Please ship to:

CDC
ATTN: Dr. Richard Meyer
1600 Clifton Road, NE
Bldg. 8/9
Atlanta, GA 30333
(888) 374-1764

If you have any questions or problems with sample packaging or shipment, please call:

Charles Buxton, DLS Chemical
Terrorism Field Laboratory
Coordinator (888) 461-6713
(voice & numeric) or
7243001194@pagebb.com (text)

Dr. John Osterloh, Chief
Medical Officer
(770) 488-7367

Division of Laboratory Sciences,
National Center for
Environmental Health, CDC
(770) 488-7950